

JAN 17 3 20 PM '13

Date: 12-17-2012

Page 1

**Members Present:** Kathy Halloran, Chairman  
Teri Turgeon, Secretary  
Donna Stock, Member

**Also Present:** Dr. James Cummings, Superintendent of Schools  
Lucille Boutiette, Assistant Superintendent  
Teresa Tracy, Director of Finance  
Arnold Lundwall, Director of Special Education

**Late Arrivals:** Daryl Rynning, Member at 7:05 p.m.

**Not Present:** Peter Carlson, Vice Chairman

**7:01 p.m. – Call to Order – Open Session**

1. **Chairperson's Update:** After a moment of silence in honor of the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy, Kathy Halloran gave the Chairperson's Updates. Please refer to the Attachment for further details.

2. **Comments from the Public:**

A. **Community Groups and Citizens:** None.

3. **Educational Reports:**

Mr. Jim Pignataro, Principal, GHS and Ms. Maureen Cohen, Assistant Principal, GHS, gave a NEASC report to the SC focusing on the updated and revised comment section of the GHS report cards and requested that the SC vote to institute these changes in time for publishing third quarter report cards. For further detailed information, please see the Memorandum dated December 11, 2012 from Mr. Pignataro to Dr. Cummings which includes comments from Massachusetts schools poled on whether or not their school publishes its learning expectations/school-wide rubrics on their report cards, an explanation as to the scoring rubric, a prior memorandum from Mr. Pignataro to Dr. Cummings dated November 26, 2012 and the Mission Statement of GHS. Mr. Pignataro stated that the proposed reporting meets all of the NEASC requirements.

The SC Members asked many questions of the Panel and expressed that before voting to approve the comment section of the GHS report cards, they asked that the Panel further consider adding the rubrics to the report cards along with an explanation of the numerical assessment given to a student and/or student's project. The SC expressed that students and parents will expect a clear format providing an explanation as to the grade and assessment given.

The SC Members informed the Panel that they will conduct a Workshop Meeting on January 7, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at Central Office and will bring this item back (for a vote) at the January 14, 2013 SC Meeting.

**4. General Business:**

- A. 2013-2014 School Calendar:** Ms. Lucille Boutiette, Assistant Superintendant, presented the SC with the finalized version of the 2013-2014 school calendar for their approval. Please see the Agenda for a full printout of the proposed calendar.

Teri Turgeon motioned to approve the finalized version of the 2013-2014 school calendar as presented. Daryl Rynning second. Motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Boutiette indicated she will post the calendar to the school web site.

- B. Preliminary FY14 Textbooks/Software Budget:** Ms. Boutiette gave an update on the developing FY14 textbooks and software budget to the SC for their consideration. She provided an overview of the proposed spending breakdown for the resources being sought. Please see the Agenda which refers to the Memorandum dated December 10, 2012 from Ms. Boutiette to the SC Members for further information.

SC Members accepted the updated report.

- C. Preliminary FY14 Staffing Requests:** Dr. Cummings gave an update on the developing FY14 staffing requests to the SC for their consideration. He narrated a slide show presentation and provided the SC Members with a handout dated December 17, 2012 outlining the requests.

The SC Members thanked Dr. Cummings for his report. They asked that, with respect to Enrollment/Class Size, that he provide them with additional information concerning the current and projected student/teacher ratio.

- D. Preliminary FY14 School Department Budget:** Dr. Cummings gave an update on the developing FY14 school department budget to the SC for their consideration. He narrated a slide show presentation and provided the SC Members with a handout which focuses on a district-wide outline of the budget variables, critical needs, stimulus funding, growing district enrollment, upcoming unit negotiations, state and federal funding and special education costs.

Dr. Cummings indicated that although the budget does not parallel issues from last year (with the addition of a new school and reconfigurations of existing buildings), it provides many challenges and complexities. He stated he will provide the SC with a full preliminary budget recommendation at the January 14, 2013 SC Meeting.

**5. School Committee Member Reports:**

- A. Donna Stock reported that she participated in a recent Building Committee meeting and provided the SC Members with an overview of the meeting.
- B. Teri Turgeon mentioned that the Interest Based Bargaining Presentation was attended by herself, Peter Carlson, Lucille Boutiette and James Cummings.

**6. Superintendent's Report:**

**A. District Update:** Dr. Cummings extended his appreciation to the District Staff for their support since the tragic events in Connecticut. He indicated that a team worked throughout the weekend and there was a meeting with all staff on Monday morning prior to the school day. He is actively assessing safety measures and working with the police and fire departments. Dr. Cummings noted that he communicated with members of the two collaboratives that the District is involved with and will continue to seek ways to utilize services and resources available to the District. He stated he will have a full report available for the January 14, 2013 SC Meeting.

**B. Personnel Report:** Please refer to the Agenda for the Superintendent's Personnel Report dated December 17, 2012.

**7. Future Agenda Planning:** Kathy Halloran noted a date change to the District Government Meeting. The SC Members discussed the insertion of the SC goals into future Agendas.

**8. Approval of Minutes:**

**A. Minutes of December 3, 2012:** – Donna Stock motioned to approve minutes of December 3, 2012 as presented. Teri Turgeon second. Motion carried 3-0-1.

**9. Financial Report:**

**A. Approval of Warrant – December 20, 2012:** Teresa Tracy, Director of Finance, and the School Committee reviewed and made comments on the Warrant. Please refer to Warrant #25, dated December 20, 2012, in the amount of \$219,797.08 (attached to Agenda) for further details.

Daryl Rynning motioned that the School Committee approve Warrant #25, dated December 20, 2012, in the amount of \$219,797.08. Donna Stock second. Motion carried 4-0.

**10. Policy:**

**A. Second Reading – KF, KF-E1, KF-R**

Ms. Lucille Boutiette indicated that Anthony LeMay, Director of Buildings and Grounds, would be the point person for those applying for school facility use.

Teri Turgeon motioned to approve the Second Reading of Policy KF, KF-E1, KF-R as presented. Daryl Rynning second. Motion carried 4-0.

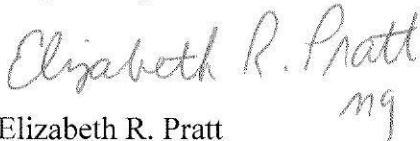
**11. Correspondence: None.**

**12. Executive Session: None.**

**13. Adjournment: Teri Turgeon motioned to adjourn at 9:38 p.m. Donna Stock second. Motion carried 4-0.**

Documents referenced are on file with the Grafton School Department.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Elizabeth R. Pratt

## CHAIRPERSON'S UPDATE

12/17/12

Although geographic distance separates us from the tragedy that occurred in Newtown, CT last Friday, every one of us has been touched very close at heart. Please join me in a moment of silence honoring those who were killed and their families.

### GHS

There will be a **dedication of the opening of the new gym** and recognition of those basketball playing alumni in attendance on this Friday, December 21st. The boys' and girls' basketball varsity teams will play v. Southbridge High School. The dedication will take place between the games.

### DISTRICT

As a reminder - the **winter holiday break** begins at dismissal this Friday, December 21st and continues until Wednesday, January 2nd when faculty and students return.